Law, Justice and Company Affairs have appointed some notaries in Delhi during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the break-up of candidates belonging to Scheduled castes/Tribes and the non-SC/STs called for interview and those who were selected;

(c) whether it is fact that the advocates belonging to SC/STs possessing more than twenty five years experience were discriminated and much junior advocates belonging to upper castes were appointed; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take for providing adequate representation to the SC/ST advocates while appointing Notaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BGARDWAJ): (a) yes Sir. (b) In 1993-94, 16 eligible advocates practising at Delhi were inerviewed and out of them, 9 were appointed as notaries. Under the Notaries Act, 1952, there is no provision for the reservation of appointments in favour of the SC/ST advocates. Hence, no data regarding candidates belonging to SCs/STs is maintained.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The appointment of notaries is made on the basis of the requirements of the Notaries Act, 1952 and the rules made thereunder.

Winding up of Non-Functioning Companies

3193. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to simplify the procedure for winding up of non-functioning companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the representatives of Companies' Associations have discussed this issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The procedure for striking off the name of a defunct company has been specified in Section 560 of the Companies Act, 1956. The Department of Company Affairs has recently simplified the procedural requirements before initiating such action by Registrar of Companies where request has been made in this behalf. In cases where no request is made by the companies/their directors and where the companies have not filed their balance sheets for the last two or more years after incorporation and there is no evidence to suggest that the company is carrying on business or is in operation, *suo moto* action is to be taken after issuing a public notice in the newspapers by the Registrar of Companies.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Creation of Trusts for Providing Service to inventors of Shares

3194. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Company Affairs had issued instructions to various chambers of commerce to advise their constituents to create Trusts for providing service to the investors in the matter of disposing odd lot of shares of a company held by them;

(b) if so, what is the number of companies which have created such Trusts so far;

(c) whether Government's objective of encouraging self-regulation instead of prescribing any specific provision in the Companies Act, has been achieved; and

(d) whether Government intend to take any steps for creation of such Trusts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information regarding the number of companies which have created such trusts is not maintained by the Department of Company Affairs.

(c) and (d) The problem of disposal of odd lots shares is likely to be solved by creation of independent Trusts by the companies.

Pilot Progress Scheme for expeditious disposal of pending cases

3195. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are monitoring the results of Pilot Progress Scheme introduced